

will prove to be worthwhile. If every Member of the United States Congress could hear you, I'm quite confident we would prevail. For the rest of us, we have to do our best to add to your voices.

But I hope as you argue this you will remember to talk to those who have never been to those villages about what we know is true. The empowerment of individuals in difficult circumstances is the ultimate answer to all of our challenges, and this is a very important part of that.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:02 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Dr. Enyantu Ifenne, Director, Center for Development and Population Activities of Nigeria; Albanian Ambassador to the U.S. Petrit Bushati; Colombian Ambassador to the U.S. Luiz Alberto Moreno; and Nigerian Ambassador to the U.S. Jibril Muhammed Aminu.

### **Radio Remarks on the Social Security Internet Retirement Planner**

*April 7, 2000*

For more than 60 years now, Social Security has provided a measure of financial security for seniors after a lifetime of work. Beginning today, Americans of all ages can log on to the Internet and find out in seconds the amount of Social Security benefits they can expect in retirement. The new on-line retirement planner estimates future benefits based on past, present, and projected future income. Just log on to the Social Security web site at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov), and click on the new Social Security retirement planner. It's never too early to plan your financial future.

NOTE: The President's remarks were recorded at approximately 3:10 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House for later broadcast. These remarks were also made available on the White House Press Office Actuality Line.

### **Proclamation 7287—National Volunteer Week, 2000**

*April 7, 2000*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

Each year our Nation is blessed by the service of more than 100 million Americans who take time out of their busy lives to reach out to those in need. Volunteers come from every age group and walk of life, yet they share a common conviction: that by giving of themselves, they can bridge the divide between strangers, create stronger families, and build better communities.

National Volunteer Week offers us a chance to thank the many volunteers whose work and compassion add so much to the quality of our lives. It also gives those who have never volunteered the opportunity to learn more about the many organizations that would benefit from their time and talents. People who enjoy sports can volunteer at a Special Olympics event; those who love the arts can work as docents in a gallery or historic home; those who love to read can share that love through a literacy program.

Our success with the AmeriCorps program demonstrates the power and promise of community service in America. Since we passed the National and Community Service Trust Act in 1993, more than 150,000 young people have served in AmeriCorps. They have taught or mentored more than 4 million children; helped to immunize more than a million people; worked to build some 11,000 homes; and sparked a new spirit of community service across our Nation. In my proposed budget for fiscal 2001, I have included funding to reach our goal of 100,000 AmeriCorps members in service each year. I have also outlined a new AmeriCorps Reserves program that will allow us to call upon AmeriCorps alumni during times of special need, such as following natural disasters. The Corporation for National Service will commit \$10 million to create a new "E-corps"—750 qualified AmeriCorps volunteers who will

help to bring digital opportunity to communities by providing technical support to school computer systems, tutoring at Community Technology Centers, and offering technical training for careers in the information technology sector. Through a new Community Coaches program, we will place adults in 1,000 schools to help engage students in service programs that will connect them to the wider community. And through new Youth Empowerment Grants, we will reward social entrepreneurship among young people who are seeking solutions to problems such as youth violence and alienation.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., reminded us that “everyone can be great because anyone can serve.” During National Volunteer Week, let us pause to thank all who have responded to that call to greatness, and let each of us make our own commitments to volunteer in our neighborhoods and communities.

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 9 through April 15, 2000, as National Volunteer Week. I call upon all Americans to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to express appreciation to the volunteers among us for their commitment to service and to encourage the spirit of volunteerism in our families and communities.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:16 a.m., April 10, 2000]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on April 16.

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## Digest of Other White House Announcements

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The following list includes the President’s public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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### April 2

In the morning, the President traveled to Las Vegas, NV.

In the evening, the President traveled to San Jose, CA. Later he traveled to Palo Alto, CA and returned to San Jose, CA.

### April 3

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Barbara Snelling to be a member of the U.S. Institute of Peace.

The President announced his intention to appoint Susan Brophy McGowan as a member of the Advisory Committee on Trade Policy Negotiations.

### April 4

In the afternoon, the President met with President Ali Abdallah Salih of Yemen in the Oval Office.

### April 5

In the evening, the President traveled to Chappaqua, NY.

The President announced his intention to nominate Carol W. Kinsley and Robert Rogers to be members of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

### April 6

In the morning, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael G. Kozak to be U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Belarus.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael V. Dunn to be a member of the Farm Credit Administration Board.

### April 7

The White House announced that the President will travel to Oklahoma City, OK, on April 19.